

578

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/731,700

Examiner

Mitra Aryanpour

Applicant(s)

CARTWRIGHT, THOMAS

Art Unit

3711

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the Amendment filed 05 May 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-18.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 09 December 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>06/06/2005</u> . |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other <u>See Continuation Sheet</u> . |

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with *Peter Matos* on *06 June 2005*.

The application has been amended as follows:

In The Claims:

In claim 3, lines 1 and 2, "further comprising" has been deleted and --wherein the at least one cover member is-- has been inserted before "a plurality".

NOTE: The above changes have been made to overcome informalities, in order to put this application in condition for allowance.

REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: Claims 1-14 are allowable over the prior art of record, because the prior art does not show or suggest the combination of a table assembly comprising a tabletop, at least one cover member extending outwardly from a periphery of the tabletop and an under-portion disposed beneath the tabletop, a support assembly, a conversion assembly movable relative to the tabletop and selectively disposable between an operative, a stored and a supporting position, said operative position at least partially defined by said conversion assembly disposed in substantially overlying relation to the periphery of said tabletop, said stored position at least partially defined by said conversion

Art Unit: 3711

assembly disposed beneath said tabletop and at least partially within said under portion, and said supporting position at least partially defined by said conversion assembly disposed in supporting relation to said cover member.

3. Claims 15-18 are allowable over the prior art of record, because the prior art does not show or suggest the combination of a table assembly for conversion between a conventional table and a billiard table, said assembly comprising a tabletop, a plurality of cover members extending outwardly from a periphery of the tabletop and an under-portion disposed beneath the tabletop, a support assembly, a conversion including a plurality of side rails, each positionable between an operative, a stored and a supporting position, said operative position of said side rails comprising each of said side rails disposed above the outer surface and in substantially overlying relation to a corresponding periphery of said tabletop, said stored position of each of said side rails comprising each of said side rails disposed beneath said tabletop and at least partially within said under portion, said supporting position of each said side rails comprising each of said side rails disposed in supporting relation to corresponding ones of said plurality of cover members, and said plurality of rails being collectively disposed and dimensioned to substantially surround said outer surface when in said operative position and thereby facilitate the playing of billiards thereon.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

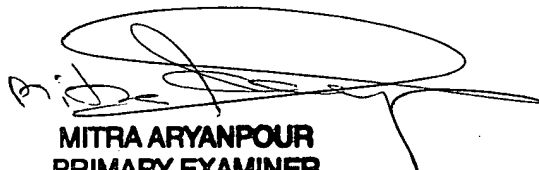
Art Unit: 3711

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mitra Aryanpour whose telephone number is 571-272-4405. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday 10:00 to 6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Greg Vidovich can be reached on 571-272-4415. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MA
06 June 2005



MITRA ARYANPOUR
PRIMARY EXAMINER